



48 PAGES EVERY WEEK

ACTION

COMICS® WEEKLY

NO. 610
\$1.50
CAN \$2.00
U.K. 60p

PLUS:

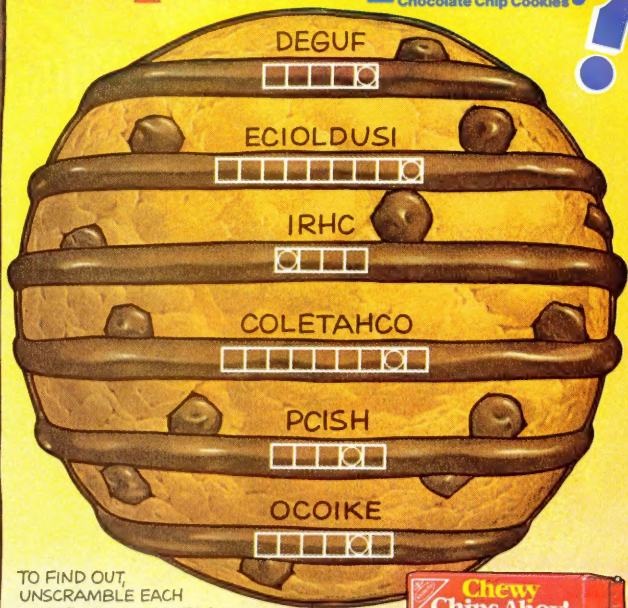
BLACK
CANARY
SECRET SIX
GREEN
LANTERN
SUPERMAN
PHANTOM
STRANGER

DEADMAN™ "THE DEMON WITHIN!"



WHAT HAPPENS EVERY TIME YOU BITE INTO A Striped Chips Ahoy!

Chocolate Chip Cookies



TO FIND OUT,
UNSCRAMBLE EACH
SET OF LETTERS TO FORM
A WORD THAT DESCRIBES
STRIPED CHIPS AHOY!
WRITE EACH WORD IN
THE BOXES. NOW ARRANGE
THE CIRCLED LETTERS
TO COMPLETE THE
LINE "BETCHA
BITE A _____."

BETCHA
BITE A



ANS: FUDGE, DELICIOUS, RICH, CHOCOLATE, CHIPS, COOKIE

GREEN LANTERN

GREEN LANTERN, DETERMINED TO DISCOVER WHETHER HE IS INDEED COMPLETELY REARLESS, IS ABOUT TO TAKE ON A SWORD-WIELDING LUNATIC WITHOUT THE AID OF HIS POWER RING.

THE POLICE ARE ONLY A BLOCK AWAY, ZORRO, BUT YOU WANT TO MAKE THIS TOWN ON YOURSELF?

FINE.



WRITTEN BY
PETER DAVID

PENCILS & INKS BY
TOD SMITH

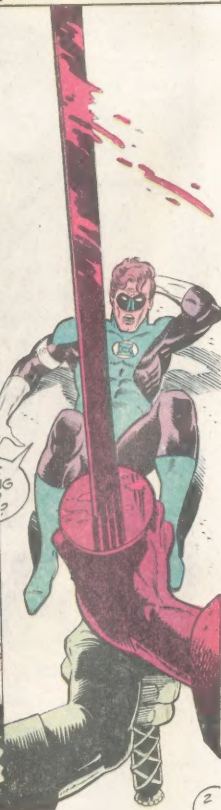
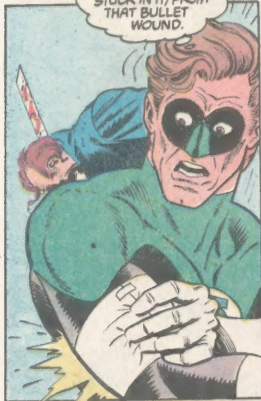
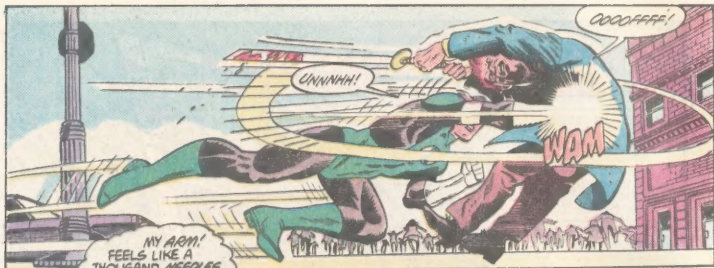
LETTERS BY
JOHN COSTANZA

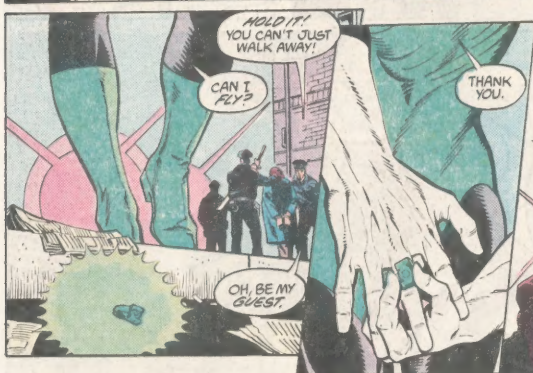
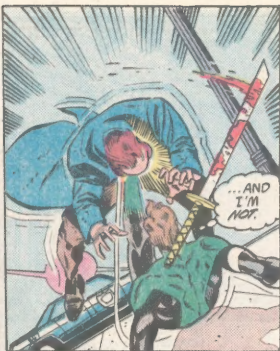
COLORS BY
ANTHONY TOLLIN

EDITING BY
DENNY O'NEIL

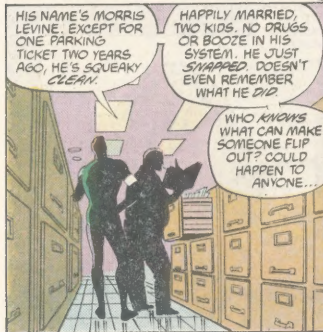
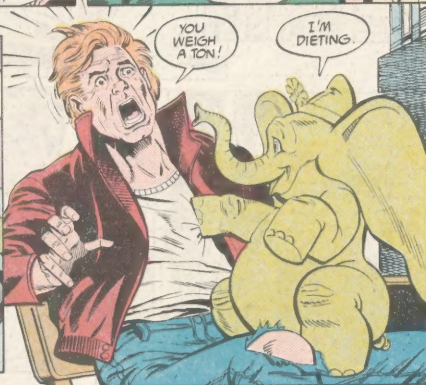
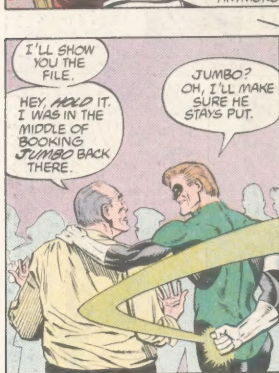
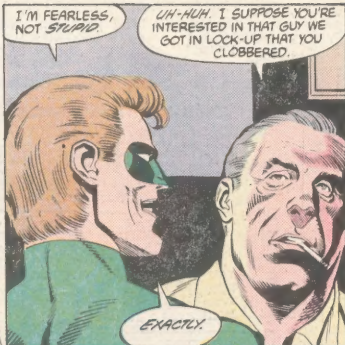
ACTION COMICS WEEKLY #10 (USPS 004-480) Published weekly with the exception of the last week of the year by DC Comics Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103. Second class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ACTION COMICS WEEKLY, DC Comics Inc., Subscription Dept., P.O. Box 1981, New York, NY 10185. Annual subscription rate \$78.00. Outside U.S.A. \$88.00 in U.S. funds. Copyright © 1988 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. Advertising Representative: Print Advertising Representatives Inc., 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017. (212) 391-1400. Printed in U.S.A.

DC Comics Inc., A Warner Communications Company









HAL! IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GOT BACK HERE TO THE HOTEL!

WHY ARE YOU STILL IN YOUR BATHROBE? I THOUGHT YOU'D BE OUT SHOPPING OR SOMETHING.

I'M DEPRESSED, THAT'S WHY. WHEN ARE WE GOING HOME?



NOT IMMEDIATELY. SOMETHING STRANGE IS HAPPENING HERE IN CHICAGO, I'M SURE OF IT. IF I WERE THE ELONGATED MAN, MY NOSE WOULD BE TWITCHING.

WELL, I THINK CHICAGO SHOULD FEND FOR ITSELF WHEN I THINK OF THE WAY THEY LAUGHED AT YOU...

IT MAKES ME SO... SO...

WELL IT IS KIND OF STRANGE, ARISIA...

I MEAN, THOSE WOMEN ON THE SHOW HAD A POINT. IS IT POSSIBLE TO BE COMPLETELY FEARLESS...

HAL... YOU'RE A HERO, THE BRAVEST MAN I KNOW. CAN'T YOU JUST ACCEPT THAT?

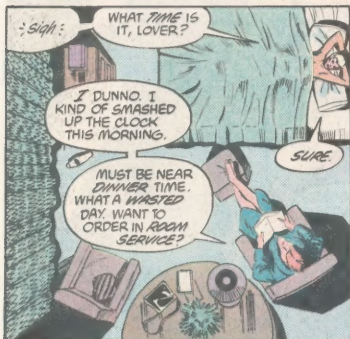
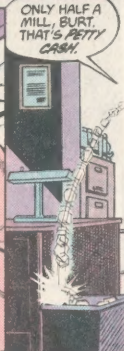
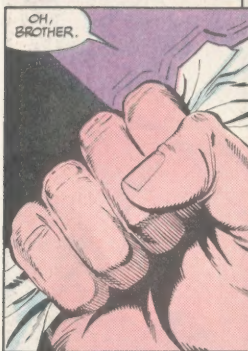
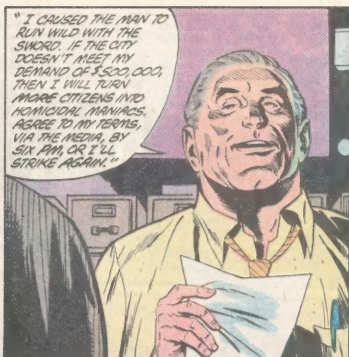
BUT EVEN BRAVE MEN-- I MEAN, TO BE AFRAID OF NOTHING. IT'S NOT HUMAN, SOMEHOW.

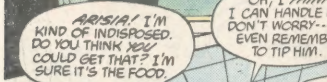
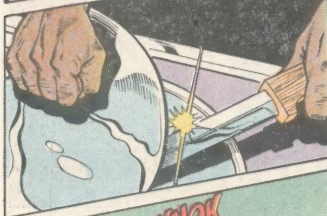
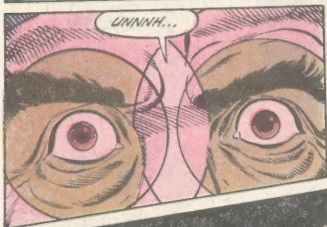
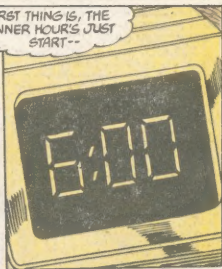
WITHOUT BEING A NUT? AM I... NORMAL?

SO WHAT? I'M NOT HUMAN, AND IT'S NEVER BOTHERED ME.

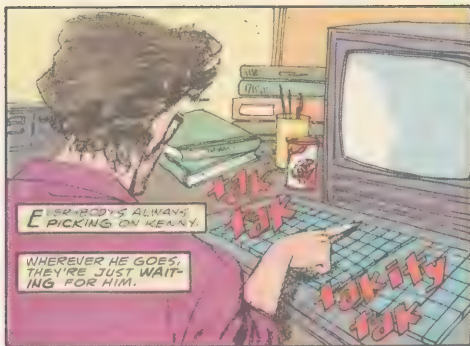
DON'T LET IT WORRY... MUMM...







CONTINUED
NEXT WEEK!



EVER-BODY'S ALWAYS
PICKING ON KENNY.

WHEREVER HE GOES,
THEY'RE JUST WAIT-
ING FOR HIM.



BU-BUT,
OFFICER,
EV-EVERY-
BODY WAS
CROSSING
AGAINST
THE
LIGHT...

AND YOU'RE
THE ONE
GETS THE
TICKET!
WISEGUY,
C'MON, LET'S
SEE SOME
ID. I AIN'T
GOT ALL
DAY!



KENNY USED TO
JUST GET MAD.

SUMMONS

Deposit \$41.24
Slip NEW YORK
BANK



BUT I'M THE
LAST ONE ON
LINE. CAN'T YOU
GO TO LUNCH
AFTER
YOU'VE...

NEXT
WINDOW
PLEASE

WHAT'RE YOU,
ILLITERATE?
I'M CLOSED!



NOW HE JUST
GETS EVEN.



YES.

THIS
ONE IS
RIPE!



EH?

I AM
SORRY, MY
FRIEND. I WAS...
DISTRACTED.
WHAT WERE
YOU SAYING?

PHANTOM STRANGER

MUST HAVE BEEN
SOMETHING I MISSED,
STRANGER...OR IS
IT MORE A CASE OF
YOUR KNOWING
SOMETHING
I DON'T?

IT IS THE LATTER,
BRUCE GORDON.
YOU KNOW MY PER-
CEPTIONS ARE NOT
LIMITED TO THE
EARTHLY PLANE. I
THOUGHT I SENSED
A DISTURBANCE
...SOMEWHERE
ELSE.

IS IT ALL RIGHT?
IF THERE'S TROUBLE,
I CAN...

PAUL KUPPERBERG • WRITER
KYLE BAKER • ARTISTE
BERT WORKMAN • LETTERER
PETRA SCOTSE • COLORIST
MIKE CARLIN • EDITOR

KENNY AND THE DEMON!!

NO, PLEASE, SIT,
MY FRIEND. IT WAS
NOTHING MORE THAN
A MOMENTARY
FLUX IN THE
MAGICAL FLOW. ANY
NUMBER OF CAUSES
IS POSSIBLE--

--MOST OF
THEM NO DOUBT
HARMLESS. PERHAPS I
AM MERELY BEING
OVERLY CAUTIOUS...

BUT THERE ARE
MIGHTY FORCES AT
WORK IN THE UNI-
VERSE, SEEKING TO
DESTROY THE VERY
FABRIC OF ORDER--
AND DOOM MAN-
KIND. I HAVE...
FEELINGS FOR
HUMANITY,
BRUCE.

I OFTEN
FEAR FOR
THEIR SUS-
CEPTIBILITY
TO EVIL'S
SONG...!

THESE ARE WRONG!
YOU'LL HAVE TO REDO
ALL THE FORMS AND
GO TO THE BACK
OF THE LINE!

I...B-BUT...

KENNY WILL
SHOW THEM.

HIS SOUL
IS WRACKED
WITH PAIN...
ANGER.

HIS MIND
IS OPEN--

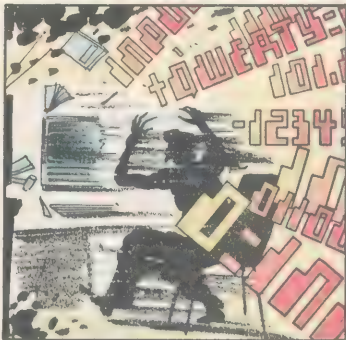
--IN HARMONY WITH
HIS MACHINE.

HE'LL
SHOW
THEM
ALL.

EVERYONE
WILL BE
SORRY!

LET THEM BE,
THEN, AS ONE!

~UUNNINGHNN!~



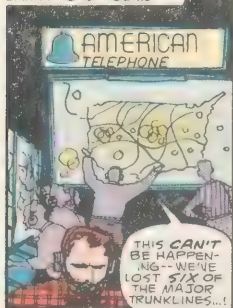
CONNECTION OPENED.
DATA FLOW INITIATED.

A CONDUIT BETWEEN OUR WORLDS,
KENNYBUSHMILLER, MAGIC... MAN...
MACHINE... THE CYCLE IS
COMPLETE.

NOW...LET ME SHOW YOU
THE TRUE MEANING OF
VENGEANCE...

~UHHNN~
WHA-
WHAT O'
YOU... YOU
WANT?

"...THE POWER ONLY THE
MELDING OF SORCERY
AND TECHNOLOGY
CAN AFFORD YOU..."



"...ENTIRE TREATMENT
SYSTEM'S BROKEN DOWN!
WE'RE LOSING TONS
OF RAW SEWAGE
INTO THE OCEAN!"



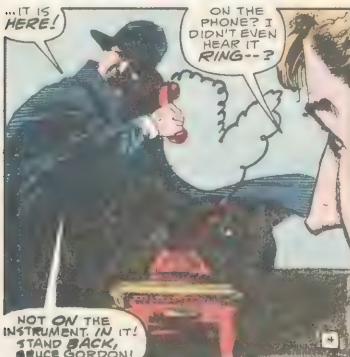
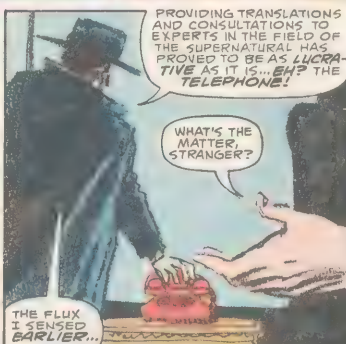
<COMRADE AMBASSADOR...
PRIORITY ORDERS FROM
MOSCOW--FOR THE KGB
HERE IN WASHINGTON TO
IMPLEMENT THE ASSASSI-
NATION LIST...!>



THIS IS ALL PRETTY IMPRESSIVE, STRANGER. IT'S STILL PRETTY WEIRD TO THINK OF YOU ACTUALLY LIVING AMONG US LIKE THIS. I NEVER WOULD'VE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE WHEN WE FIRST MET.*



*SEE LAST YEAR'S PHANTOM STRANGER MINI-SERIES.

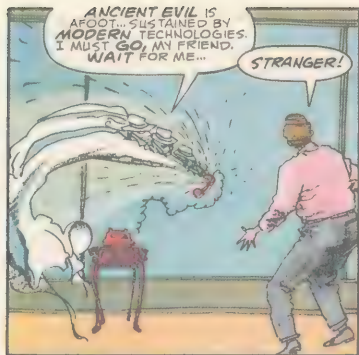


ON THE PHONE? I DIDN'T EVEN HEAR IT RING--?

NOT ON THE INSTRUMENT. IN IT! STAND BACK, BRUCE GORDON!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, STRANGER.

WHAT'S GOING ON?



ANCIENT EVIL IS
APOOT... SUSTAINED BY
MODERN TECHNOLOGIES.
I MUST GO, MY FRIEND.
WAIT FOR ME...

STRANGER!



STRANGER?

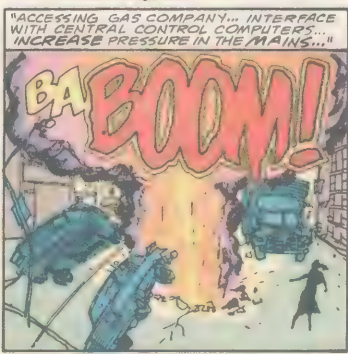
I HATE
WHEN HE
DOES
THAT...

KLUNK!



N-NOW WAIT, PLEASE...
YOU'VE BEEN READING
MY GAS METER ALL
WRONG. I MEAN, MY
BILL'S TRIPLE WHAT
IT SHOULD--

YOU SAYIN' I AIN'T
DOIN' MY JOB,
TWERP? JUST
SHADUP AND
PAY YER BILL!



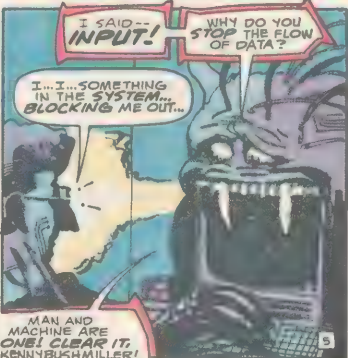
"ACCESSING GAS COMPANY... INTERFACE
WITH CENTRAL CONTROL COMPUTERS...
INCREASE PRESSURE IN THE MAINS..."

BA BOOM!



...ACCESSING COMPUTERIZED
POLICE RADIO SYSTEMS...
SCRAMBLING FREQUENCIES
... ACCESSING NATIONAL
CREDIT BUREAU... DESTROY
BILLING RECORDS...

YES, KENNY-
BUSHMILLER.
FEED ME!
INPUT!
INPUT!



I SAID--
INPUT!

WHY DO YOU
STOP THE FLOW
OF DATA?

I...I... SOMETHING
IN THE SYSTEM...
BLOCKING ME OUT...

MAN AND
MACHINE ARE
ONE! CLEAR IT,
KENNYBUSHMILLER!

I'M TRYING!
THERE'S AN
INPUT ERROR
...COMPETING
INSTRUCTIONS
...VYING FOR
CONTROL...

YOU ARE THE INPUT!
WHO DARES INVAD
OUR SYSTEM?

WAIT! IT IS MAGIC
THAT SEEKS TO
THWART US!

THE FOOL!

MAN AND MAGIC ARE MIGHTY...
BUT WE ARE MACHINE-- ALL-
POWERFUL MACHINE!

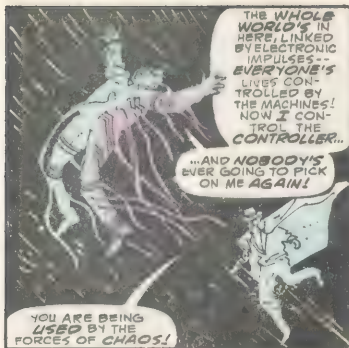
!ARRRRGHHH!
LET GO! HELP!...
MY HEAD--

ERROR! ERROR!
ERROR!

IF IT IS HELP YOU DESIRE, KENNY
BUSHMILLER, I CAN OFFER IT... IF
YOU RENOUNCE THE EVIL THAT
HAS TAKEN HOLD OF YOUR SOUL

NO! Y-YOU'RE ONE
OF THEM... YOU WANT
ME TO BE HELPLESS SO
YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF ME! EVERYONE ALWAYS
TAKES ADVANTAGE OF ME!

I WON'T
LET YOU!
YOU'RE IN MY
COMPUTER NOW...



THE WHOLE
WORLD'S IN
HERE, LINKED
BY ELECTRONIC
IMPULSES--
EVERYONE'S
LIVES CONTROLLED
BY THE MACHINES!
NOW I CONTROL
THE CONTROLLER...

...AND NOBODY'S
EVER GOING TO PICK
ON ME AGAIN!

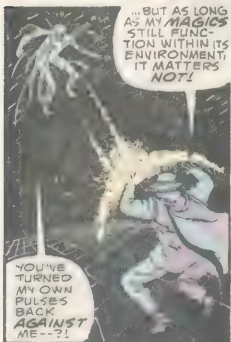
YOU ARE BEING
USED BY THE
FORCES OF CHAOS!



NO WAY! THE
COMPUTER'S MY
FRIEND. IT'S
SHOWED ME HOW
TO GET EVEN...
TELLING ME
HOW TO
DESTROY
YOU!

KILL!

...UHHH! I DO
NOT FULLY UNDER-
STAND THIS WORLD OF
ELECTRONIC PULSES...



...BUT AS LONG
AS MY MAGICS
STILL FUNCTION
WITHIN ITS
ENVIRONMENT,
IT MATTERS
NOT!

YOU'VE
TURNED
MY OWN
PULSES
BACK
AGAINST
ME--?!



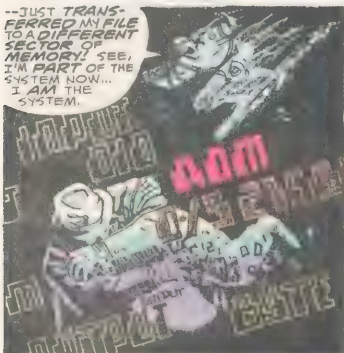
BY THE
GREAT
LORDS
--HE HAS
VANISHED!

BIG
DEAL!

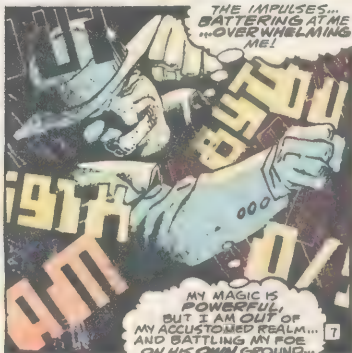


NO I
HAVEN'T,
STRANGER--

ARRRRR
RGHHHH!

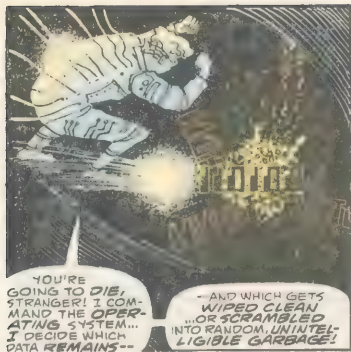


--JUST TRANS-
FERRED MY FILE
TO A DIFFERENT
SECTOR OF
MEMORY! SEE,
I'M PART OF THE
SYSTEM NOW...
I AM THE
SYSTEM.



THE IMPULSES...
BATTERING AT ME
...OVERWHELMING
ME!

MY MAGIC IS
POWERFUL!
BUT I AM OUT OF
MY ACCUSTOMED REALM...
AND BATTLING MY FOE
ON HIS OWN GROUND...



YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, STRANGER! I COMMAND THE OPERATING SYSTEM... I DECIDE WHICH DATA REMAINS--

--AND WHICH GETS WIPE CLEAN...OR SCRAMBLED INTO RANDOM, UNINTELLIGIBLE GARBAGE!

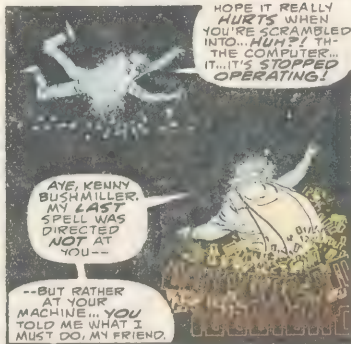


SEE...SEE? YOU CAN'T GET AWAY NOW, YOU MISSED ME ENTIRELY!

ALL YOU'VE GOT IS MAGIC--



--BUT THIS'S THE COMPUTER AGE!



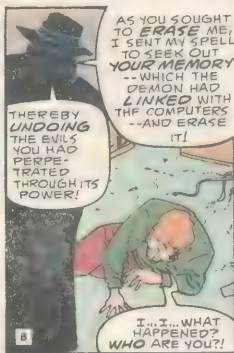
HOPE IT REALLY HURTS WHEN YOU'RE SCRAMBLED INTO...HUH?! TH- THE COMPUTER... IT...IT'S STOPPED OPERATING!

AYE, KENNY BUSHMILLER. MY LAST SPELL WAS DIRECTED NOT AT YOU--

--BUT RATHER AT YOUR MACHINE... YOU TOLD ME WHAT I MUST DO, MY FRIEND.



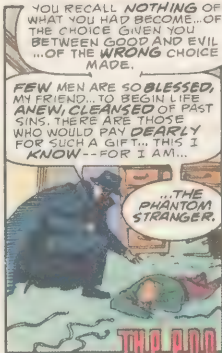
NO! I/O ERROR... TRAP V EXCEPTION... ILLEGAL INSTRUCTION... ERROR... ERROR... ERROR... ERROR...



THEREBY UNDOING THE EVILS YOU HAD PERPETRATED THROUGH ITS POWER!

AS YOU SOUGHT TO ERASE ME, I SENT MY SPELL TO SEEK OUT YOUR MEMORY --WHICH THE DEMON HAD LINKED WITH THE COMPUTERS --AND ERASE IT!

I...I...WHAT HAPPENED? WHO ARE YOU?!



YOU RECALL NOTHING OF WHAT YOU HAD BECOME...OF THE CHOICE GIVEN YOU BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL ...OF THE **WRONG** CHOICE MADE.

FEW MEN ARE SO BLESSED, MY FRIEND...TO BEGIN LIFE ANEW, CLEANSSED OF PAST SINS. THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD PAY DEARLY FOR SUCH A GIFT... THIS I KNOW--FOR I AM...

...THE PHANTOM STRANGER.

THE END

Games with memories you won't forget

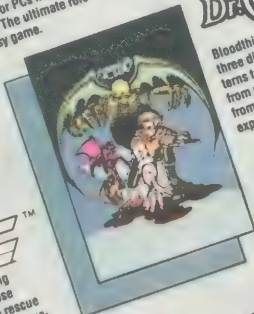


Ultima™

One of the most popular and best-selling games for PCs now available from FCI. The ultimate role playing fantasy game.

Dr. CHAOS™

Bloodthirsty monsters on three different screen patterns try to prevent Michael from rescuing Dr. Chaos from the havoc of a mad experiment gone haywire.



ZANAC™

Twelve screens of flying space creatures oppose Zanax as he fights to rescue the human race from destruction. Speed and strategy change as you improve.



Lunar Pool™

Play sixty different tables to become the pool hustler of outer space. Challenge yourself, the computer or another player. Different from anything on earth.



Fujisankei Communications International, Inc.
645 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10022
Tel. (800) 255-1431
In NY State (212) 753-1911

FCI

Dr. Chaos, Zanax and Lunar Pool are trademarks of Fujisankei Communications International, Inc. and are licensed for play on the Nintendo Entertainment System.™ Ultima is a trademark of Richard Garriott. Nintendo and Nintendo Entertainment Systems are trademarks of Nintendo of America Inc.



"Up, Up and Awaay!!!"™ Celebrate my 50th Birthday

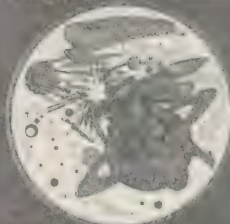
12 TROY OZS.



Actual Size

Actual Size
1 TROY OZ.

2 TROY OZS.



Actual Size



Get the Official Medallions!

Celebrate with Superman™ and order these official medallions that are double-struck, of proof quality, with certificate.

Deeply incised with the fine detailing that collectors appreciate when displaying medallions of Superman™.

LIMITED MINTAGE

12 TROY OZS. — 2500 Minted

2 TROY OZS. — 5000 Minted

1 TROY OZ. — 15000 Minted

Order several as gifts for any occasion

All coins are of .999 PURE SILVER and are shown ACTUAL SIZE.

TM & © 1988 DC Comics, Inc.

OFFER LIMITED—ORDER NOW!

AMERICAN MEDALLION CORP. 1400 14th Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Please rush me the medallions indicated below, along with a list of your complete offerings:

☐ Check or Money Order enclosed.

Charge to: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Exp. Date / /

Acct. No.

Signature

Quantity

_____ 12 Troy Ozs.	@	\$195.00	=
_____ 2 Troy Ozs.	@	34.95	=
_____ 1 Troy Oz.	@	18.95	=
			Total \$ _____

Shipping & Handling + \$5.00

California add 6 1/2 % Sales Tax

(Foreign Orders—U.S. Funds only, plus postage)

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

(please allow 3 weeks for delivery)

DEADMAN HERE, SPEAKING FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE. I HAD TRACKED SATAN TO A GALA RECEPTION FOR THE SOVIET PREMIER... SATAN HAD MADE HIMSELF RIGHT AT HOME. IN THE PREMIER. BUT AFTER I SHOWED UP HE SWITCHED TO THE FIRST LADY. I SWITCHED TO THE PREMIER'S WIFE, ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER...

DEADMAN CHAPTER TEN: CATFIGHT

NANCY,
I'M CALLING
YOU OUT!

MIKE
BARON
WRITER

DAN
JURGENS
PENCILLER

TONY
DEZUNIGA
INKER

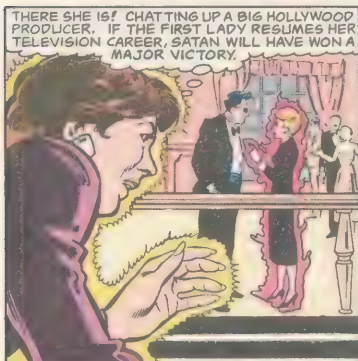
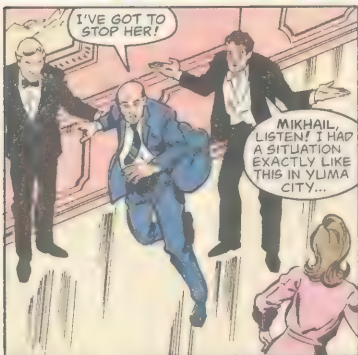
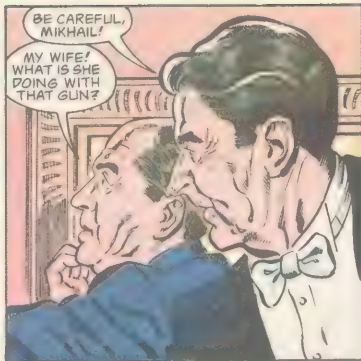
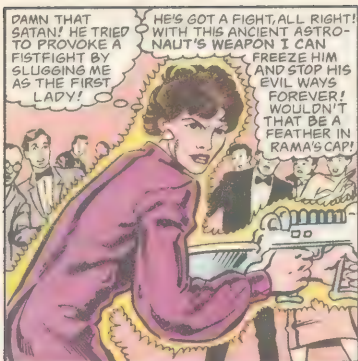
STEVE
HAYNIE
LETTERER

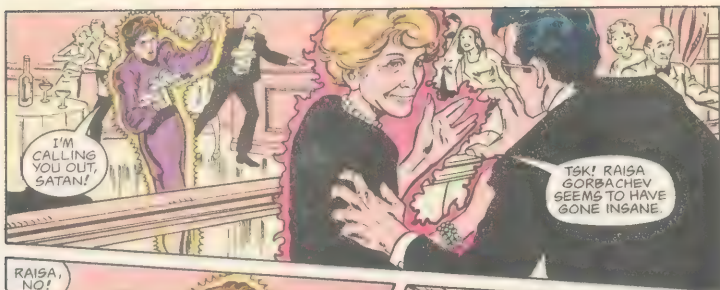
LIZ
BERUBÉ
COLORIST

BARBARA
RANDALL
EDITOR

BOSE-00

1

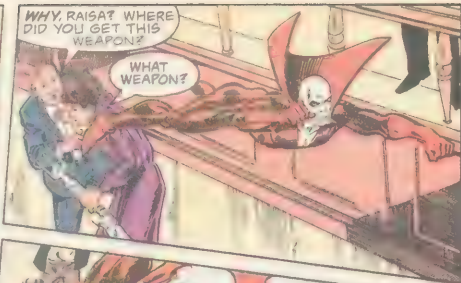






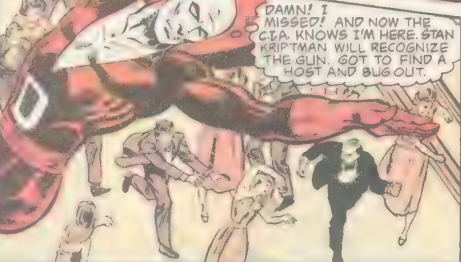
I'VE BEEN SHOT.

THIS POSITION'S GETTING A LITTLE HOT FOR ME... CO



WHY, RAISA? WHERE DID YOU GET THIS WEAPON?

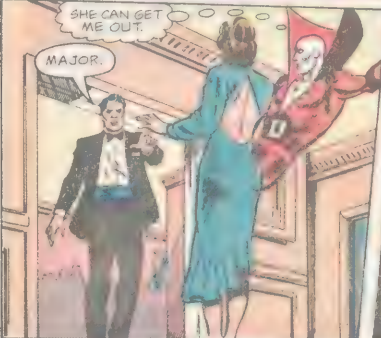
WHAT WEAPON?



DAMN! I MISSED! AND NOW THE CIA KNOWS I'M HERE. STAN KRIPTMAN WILL RECOGNIZE THE GUN. GOT TO FIND A HOST AND BUG OUT.



WELL, WELL, WELL. MY OLD FRIEND MAJOR KASABA--IN AN EVENING GOWN, NO LESS. SHE GOT ME INTO THIS MESS...



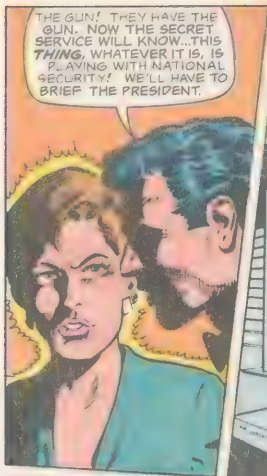
SHE CAN GET ME OUT.

MAJOR.

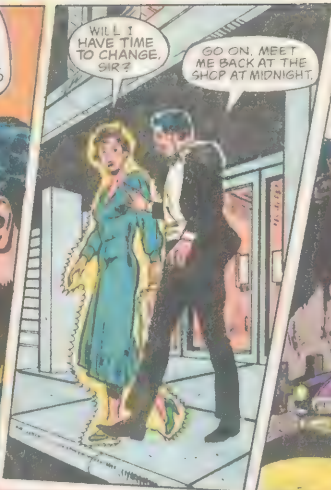


THE ENTITY'S HERE, AT THE PARTY.

HERE, SIR?



THE GUN! THEY HAVE THE GUN. NOW THE SECRET SERVICE WILL KNOW...THIS **THING**, WHATEVER IT IS, IS PLAYING WITH NATIONAL SECURITY! WE'LL HAVE TO BRIEF THE PRESIDENT.



WILL I HAVE TIME TO CHANGE, SIR?

GO ON, MEET ME BACK AT THE SHOP AT MIDNIGHT.

BACK TO THE SHOP WHERE THEY KEPT ME IN THAT GLASS COFFIN...BACK TO THE SUMERIAN JAR! THE DEVIL ESCAPED THROUGH THE JAR-- I'LL SMASH IT AND THE ANCIENT WEAPONS FROM THE PYRAM?



C.I.A. HQ, RURAL VIRGINIA.

I WILL NOW LEAVE THE BEWILDERED MAJOR KASABA AND FIND A NEW HOST BODY... I'VE BEEN DRESSING IN DRAG ALL NIGHT.



STOP!

HUH?



DEADMAN! I KNOW YOU'RE HERE --I RECOGNIZE YOUR TOUCH. IF YOU'RE HERE, GIVE ME A SIGN

OH-OH. SHE WANTS TO PARLEY.

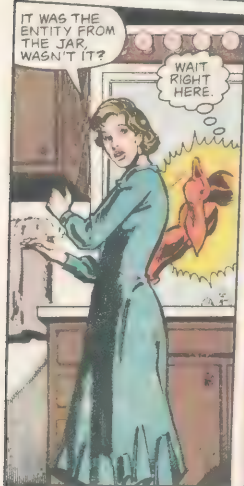


DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN I FIRST FOUND YOU, HOW I SAID WE COULD TAKE OVER GOVERNMENTS WITH YOUR ABILITIES SIMPLY BY POSSESSING THEIR LEADERS?

I REMEMBER. SO WHAT?

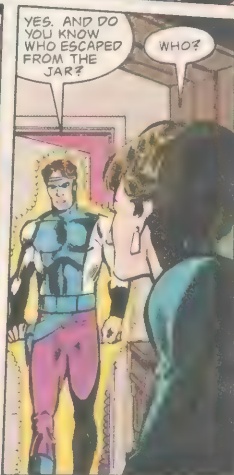


YOU'VE REALLY MADE A MESS OF THINGS! I NOW KNOW WE CAN'T CONTROL YOU-- I ALSO KNOW THAT YOU WERE TRYING TO STOP ANOTHER ENTITY...



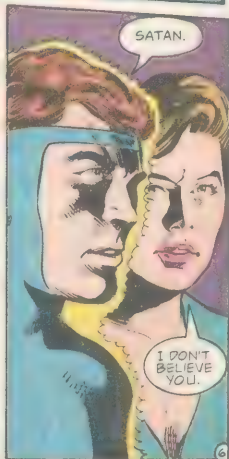
IT WAS THE ENTITY FROM THE JAR, WASN'T IT?

WAIT RIGHT HERE.



YES. AND DO YOU KNOW WHO ESCAPED FROM THE JAR?

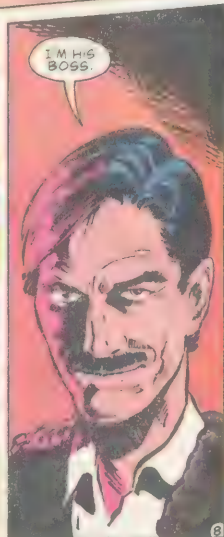
WHO?



SATAN.

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.





CONTINUED NEXT WEEK...

SUPERMAN

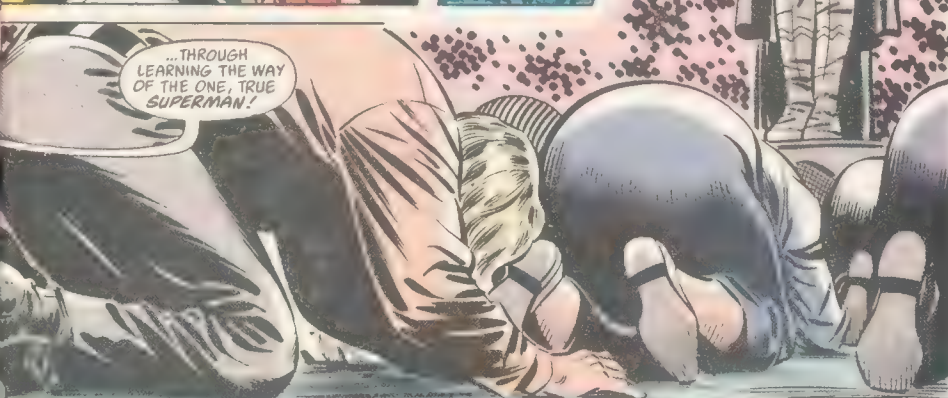
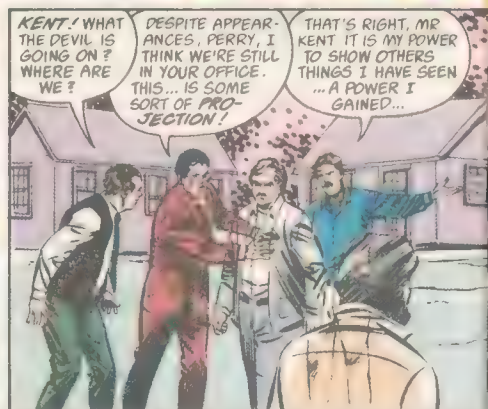
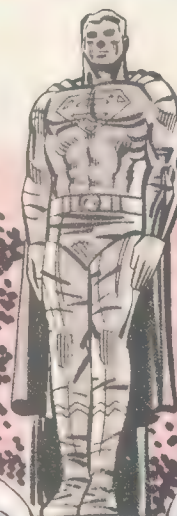
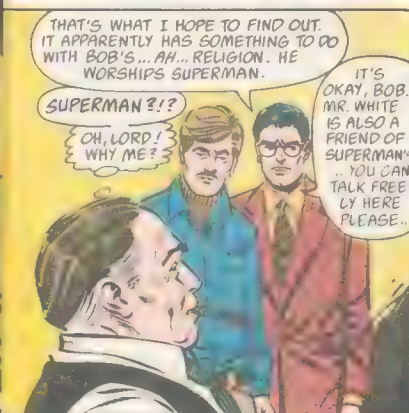
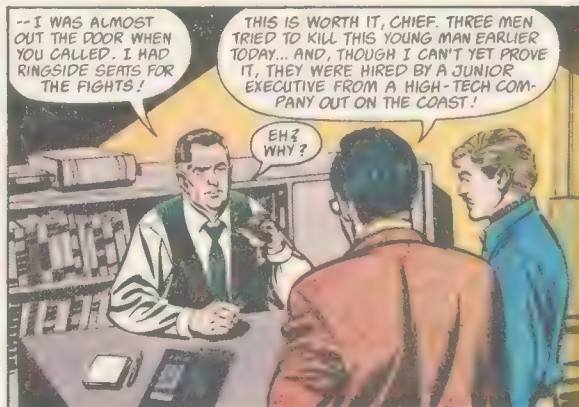
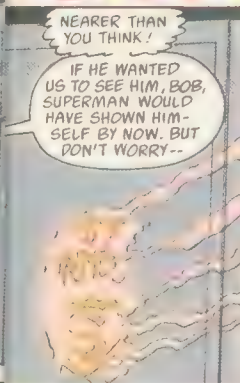
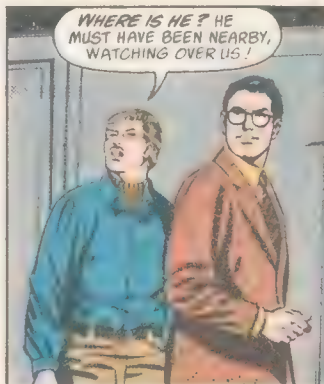
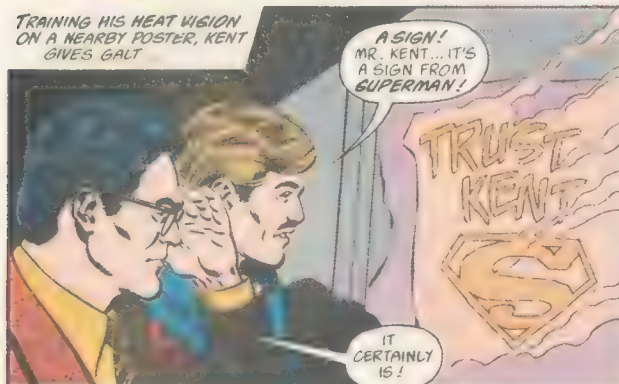
Created by
JERRY SIEGEL &
JOE SHUSTER

LAST WEEK: CLARK KENT, SECRETLY SUPERMAN, TRIED TO QUESTION BOB GALT, A YOUNG MAN WHO LITERALLY WORSHIPS SUPERMAN. BUT GALT CONSIDERED KENT A NON-BELIEVER AND REFUSED TO TALK...

"SHOW & TELL"

ROGER STERN - WRITER
CURT SWAN - PENCILLER
JOHN BEATTY - INKER
BILL OAKLEY - LETTERER
TOM ZIUKO - COLORIST
MIKE CARLIN - EDITOR

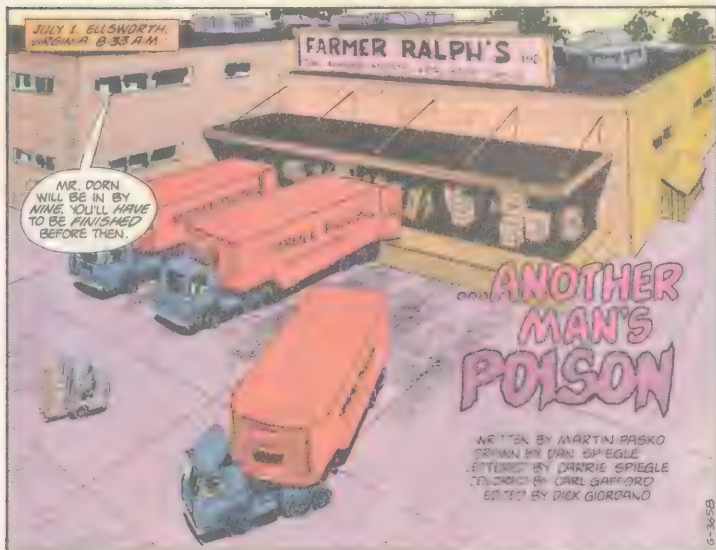
TRAINING HIS HEAT VISION ON A NEARBY POSTER, KENT GIVES GALT



CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!

THE SECRET SIX!

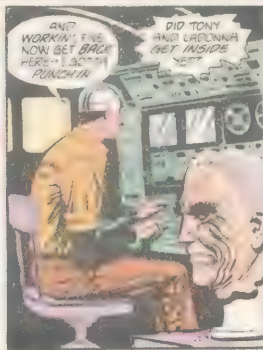
151

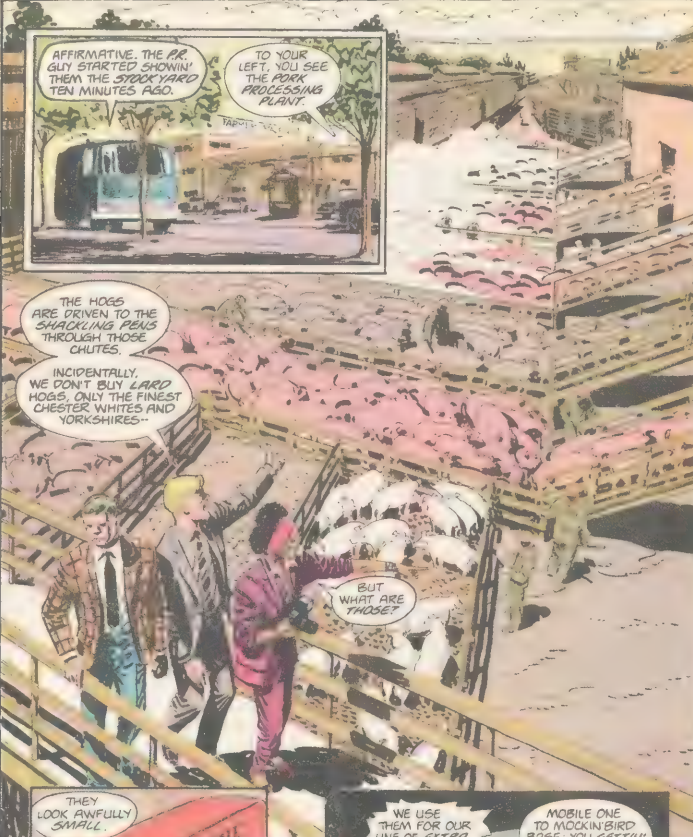


ANOTHER MAN'S POISON

WRITTEN BY MARTIN PASKO
DRAWN BY DAN SPIEGLE
LETTERED BY JARRIE SPIEGLE
COVERED BY CARL GAFFORD
EDITED BY DICK GIORGANO

G-365B





AFFIRMATIVE. THE P.R. GUY STARTED SHOWIN' THEM THE STOCKYARD TEN MINUTES AGO.

TO YOUR LEFT, YOU SEE THE PORK PROCESSING PLANT.

THE HOGS ARE DRIVEN TO THE SHACKLING PENS THROUGH THOSE CHUTES.

INCIDENTALLY, WE DON'T BUY LARD HOGS, ONLY THE FINEST CHESTER WHITES AND YORKSHIRES--

BUT WHAT ARE THOSE?

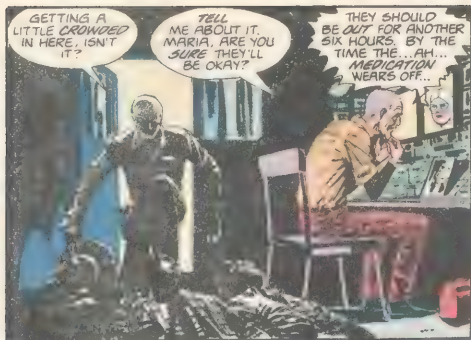
THEY LOOK AWFULLY SMALL.

OH, THOSE ARE "MINIPIGS." THEY'RE SPECIALLY BRED BACON HOGS.

WE USE THEM FOR OUR LINE OF EXTRA LEAN PORK PRODUCTS.

MOBILE ONE TO MOCKIN'BIRD BASE: YOU GETTIN' ALL THIS, MARIA?

ROGER, ONE. THE SATELLITE SIGNAL'S CLEAR AS A BELL TODAY.



GETTING A LITTLE CROWDED IN HERE, ISN'T IT?

TELL ME ABOUT IT. MARIA, ARE YOU SURE THEY'LL BE OKAY?

THEY SHOULD BE OUT FOR ANOTHER SIX HOURS. BY THE TIME THE... AH... MEDICATION WEARS OFF...



...YOU'LL BE LONG GONE.

AND WHEN THEY WAKE UP, THEY WON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING?

JUST WHERE THEY WERE WHEN THEY WERE WAYLAID... BUT NOT ENOUGH TO FIGURE OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THEM.



BETTER GET A MOVE ON, VIC. "YOUR" SHIFT STARTS IN TEN MINUTES.

ONCE I GET SUITED UP, I TAPE THESE THINGS TO THE INSIDE OF MY COAT...?



RIGHT. GET AS MANY DIFFERENT SAMPLES AS YOU CAN... I'LL HAVE THE COOLER READY WHEN YOU GO ON YOUR BREAK.

I'LL SEE ALL THREE OF YOU BACK HERE AT 1100 HOURS...



...THEN WE DUMP THE "BODIES" AND HEAD FOR THE VTOL.

WELL, I'M BACK.

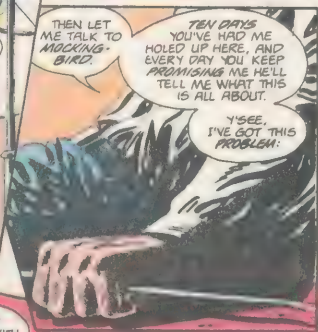
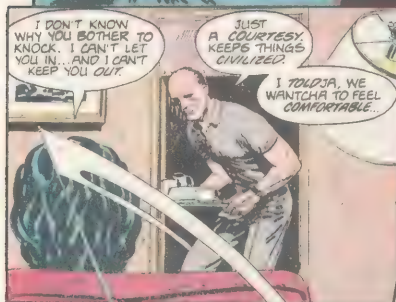
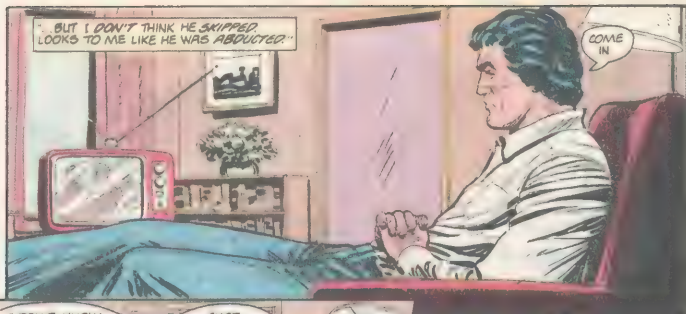
THE GUY AT THE BARCLAY FIT DI RIBENZI'S DESCRIPTION. ALL RIGHT...

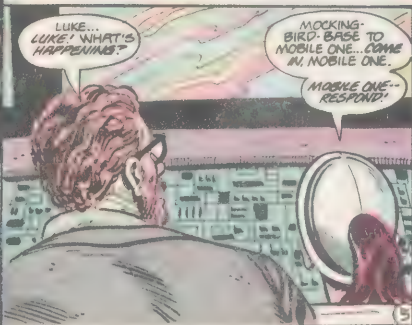
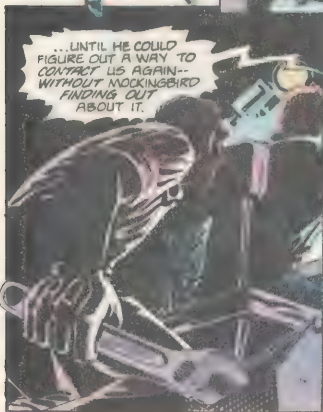


...BUT HE'S GONE, AND NOBODY AT THE HOTEL SAW HIM LEAVE.

SOME LEADS, AT LEAST. I HOPE? WE'VE BEEN AT THIS FOR OVER A WEEK NOW.

NADA. HE'S COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED...







WE'RE
CUT OFF!



AND IF LUKE
CAN'T BOOST THE
OTHERS' SIGNAL, WE'RE
CUT OFF FROM THEIR
COMMUNICATOR
READINGS.
TOO!

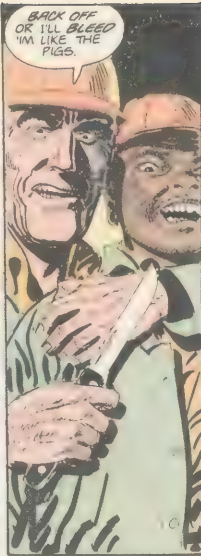


"IF SOMETHING GOES
WRONG OUT THERE,
IT'LL BE A DISASTER!"



WHAT
KINDA SCAM
IS THIS?

LET'S
GO,
BUDDY--





ABOUT THE DEATH DRIVERS

FOCUS



So I'm sitting around waiting for an assignment when Gold, my editor, bursts into the room.

"We just got wind of a new comic book," he says, "name of HAYWIRE, supposed to be something new. You know, unique."

I sneer, "Right you are, chief, like we haven't heard that wheeze before."

"This time it's the straight poop ... word is that this one's the McCoy," he says like he means it.

"So okay," says I, "it's sliced bread and the wheel all over again. What's that supposed to mean to a joe like me?"

He gives with a real icy look in my direction.



"I want you to go out and get the story on this book, the whole she-bang!" he practically shouts.

"I get it," I come back, "you want the lowdown."

"Right, the big picture."

"Sure, the skinny."

"Just go get the story!"

"You bet, chief." I know when to quit with the patty-cake.

"And don't take forever," he says, "remember, when we say ACTION COMICS WEEKLY, we mean *every* week!"

"No sweat, I'm on it!" He wants it weekly, I can do it more weekly than most.

"Now get going ... and get it right!" he shouts.



"Surely you don't mean to suggest that I would screw it up, chief." I put on my hurt look.

"Get outta here ... and don't call me Shirley!"

I'm almost to the door when his voice stops me again.

"Oh, and Scoop, be careful out there. Word has it that this HAYWIRE is suggested for ... mature readers."

I give him thumbs up and my best cocky smile and close the door behind me.

I make my way through the maze-like hallways of the DC offices. Rumor has it that Andy Helfer is the editor of HAYWIRE and he seems to be as good a place to start as any other.

I finally find my way to Helfer's office and walk in.

A voice comes out from behind a stack of JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL and SPECTRE comic books. "Whadda you want?"

"I'm looking for the lowdown on HAYWIRE," I say. "That something you can help me with?"

Helfer stands up, a cigarette dangles from his lip and he squints at me through the smoke.

"Maybe..." he says, cagey-like, "maybe not. What do you want it for?"

"We're giving it the big play in ACTION," I tell him. "Now if you're not going to help me, I'll just find it somewhere else."

"All right, all right," he says, "but HAYWIRE is tough to explain, it's pretty ... mysterious, you know?"

"Maybe you better just talk to the writer, Mike Fleisher. He can tell it best," he says and exhales smoke.

"Fleisher, eh?" I say. "Okay, how does a guy get in touch with him?"

"Hey, you're such a hotshot," says Helfer, grinning evilly, "you find him yourself!" He laughs then.

"Yeah, well ... well, maybe I'll just do that!" I shoot back, always a master wit. I then leave.

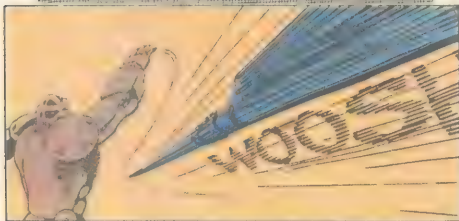
Without much trouble I locate Fleisher. First in Johnny DC's Rolodex, then on the other end of a telephone.

"So, Mike," I say, "what's with this HAYWIRE thing, anyhow?"

DC Comics Inc.
666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103

Jenette Kahn, President and Publisher
Dick Giordano, Vice Pres.-Executive Editor
Mike Gold, Supervising Editor
Robert Greenberger, Associate Editor
Brian Augustyn, Associate Editor
Richard Bruning, Art Director
Tern Cunningham, Mgr.-Editorial Admin
Pat Bastienne, Mgr.-Editorial Coordinator
Bob Rozakis, Production Director
Paul Levitz, Executive Vice President
Joe Orlando, Vice Pres.-Creative Director
Bruce Birstow, Marketing Director
Matthew Ragone, Circulation Director
Patrick Caidon, Controller

L-3255



"Well, it's basically a super-hero comic," he tells me, "but it's also a bit more."

"C'mon Mike," I say, "everybody says that. Level with me."

"I know, I know," he says. "I wish it wasn't an overused phrase, but it's true. HAYWIRE is unique in a number of ways."

"Okay, I'll bite, lay it out for me."

"Well, Haywire, the hero, is a fear-some figure of unknown origin and vast, but mysterious, power," Mike says.

"Now, that's something I've been picking up on a lot on this story. What's all this 'mysterious' stuff, anyway?" I ask.

Well, in HAYWIRE the mystery surrounding the hero and his powers is the central core of our story," he tells me. "Unraveling that mystery is largely what the first several stories are about."

"Another aspect of the mystery is the characters who are somehow linked to Haywire," Mike goes on, "There are two men whose lives are inextricably entwined with Haywire's, and even they don't understand the whole story, they don't even know of the other's existence."

"Okay," I say. "I'll grant you the unique and the mysterious. It sounds pretty intriguing. Tell me more."

"Another thing we're trying to do in HAYWIRE," he says, "is to show actual change in the story and the characters."

"As the mystery unravels, the story will change and the characters will evolve and even leave the story in some cases," Mike tells me.

"That's one thing I want to emphasize," He goes on, "No character is safe or sacrosanct. The forward motion of the story will affect all the characters."

"Great stuff, Mike," I say, scribbling notes like crazy, "but what's the story on this 'suggested for mature audiences' thing?"

"Well, it is a super-hero comic with all that goes with it," he explains, "but we want to take advantage of the progress toward more challenging storylines like using more sophisticated, complex characters and situations ... trying to push the boundaries even farther."

"Also, to be honest," Mike continues, "HAYWIRE is a pretty violent

comic book ... but it's not mindless. There is genuine consequence to this violence."

"In addition," he says, "the artwork is very powerful. When Haywire hits or gets hit, it's painful. You really feel it."

"The art is great, very grim and brooding," Mike brags. "The penciller is a new guy named Vince Giarrano and the inks are by Kyle Baker, the artist on THE SHADOW. They're doing terrific moody art."

"HAYWIRE really kicks butt. It's no-holds-barred stuff," he finishes.

Impressed, I hang up. I know Mike Fleisher means business. He's got fifteen-plus years writing comics to prove that. When it comes to exciting, intense storytelling, trust the guy who brought you JONAH HEX, WARLORD and WRATH OF THE SPECTRE.

Well, to put the cap on my story, I read the first issue. It more than lives up to its promise. The story is exciting and involving. The artwork is terrific and moody. HAYWIRE looks like a hit.

So I get my story and I head to Mike Gold's office, toss it on his desk and shout, "Stop the presses!"

I love to do that.

—Brian Augustyn



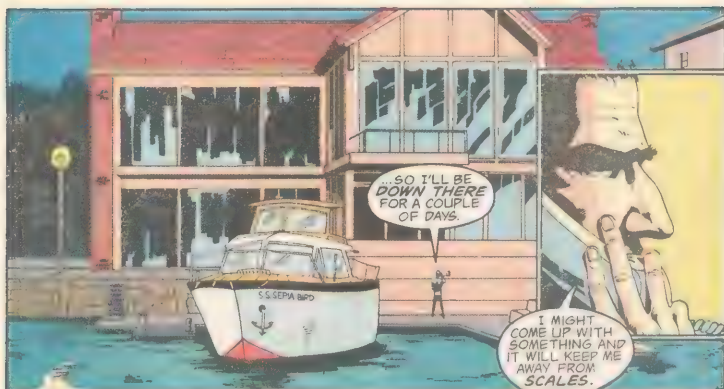
Next week: The debut of our Showcase feature starring... Catwoman! Plus more of Superman, Green Lantern, Black Canary and Secret Six. All wrapped up with a Superman cover by Alex Nino! See you in seven.

★ ★ ★ ★ VOTE ★ ★ ★ ★

Just as soon as you've finished this issue of ACTION COMICS WEEKLY, write us a letter or a postcard and rank this issue's stories in order of preference: the one you like the most first, the one you liked second second and so on. Each week, we'll tally the vote and print the results right here in our letter column. Your opinion counts, so VOTE!

Send your ballots to:

Action Comics Weekly
Department 610
DC Comics Inc.
666 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10103



...SO I'LL BE
DOWN THERE
FOR A COUPLE
OF DAYS.

I MIGHT
COME UP WITH
SOMETHING AND
IT WILL KEEP ME
AWAY FROM
SCALES.

BLACK CANARY

SHARON WRIGHT
WRITER
RANDY DUBURKE
PENCILLER
PABLO MARCOS
INKER

I WANT
THAT GUY
CRUCIFIED

IS THE PROSPECT SURE?
DAILY PRESS
SUSPENDED PILOT SUES
FORMER EMPLOYER

BITTER FRUIT PART 2

STEVE HAYNIE
LETTERER
GENE D'ANGELO
COLORIST
MIKE GOLD
EDITOR

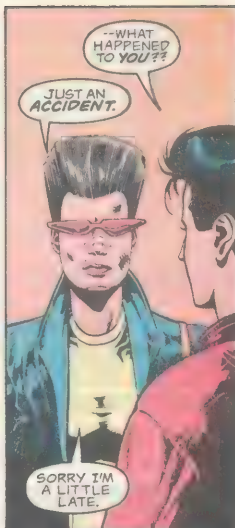
RELAX,
DOUG--LET
ME DO MY
JOB.

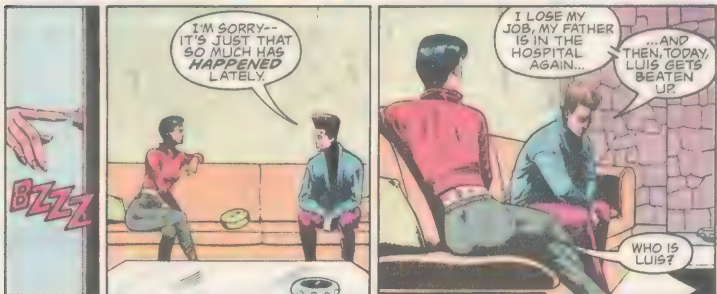
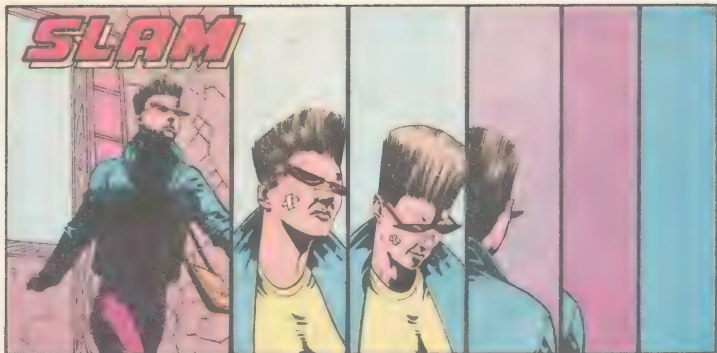


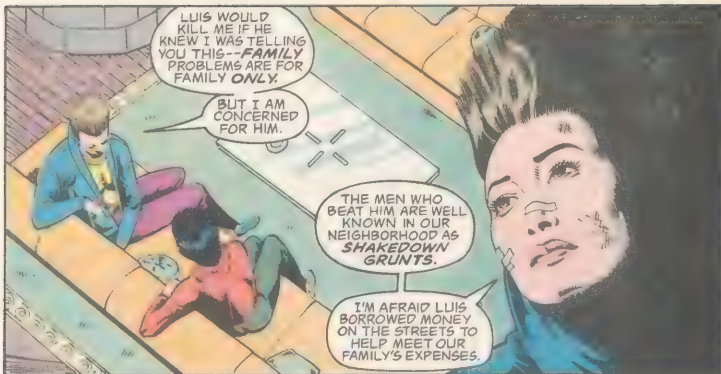
I'LL
TAKE CARE
OF HIM.

AND
I'LL FIND
LIBRADO,
TOO.







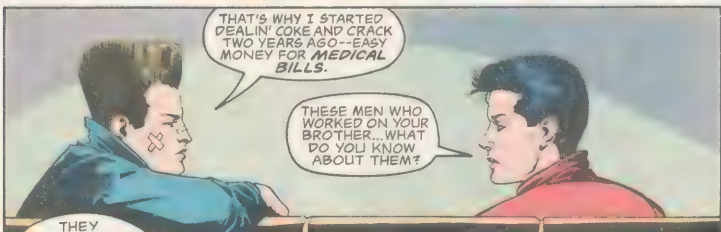


LUIS WOULD
KILL ME IF HE
KNEW I WAS TELLING
YOU THIS--**FAMILY**
PROBLEMS ARE FOR
FAMILY **ONLY**.

BUT I AM
CONCERNED
FOR HIM.

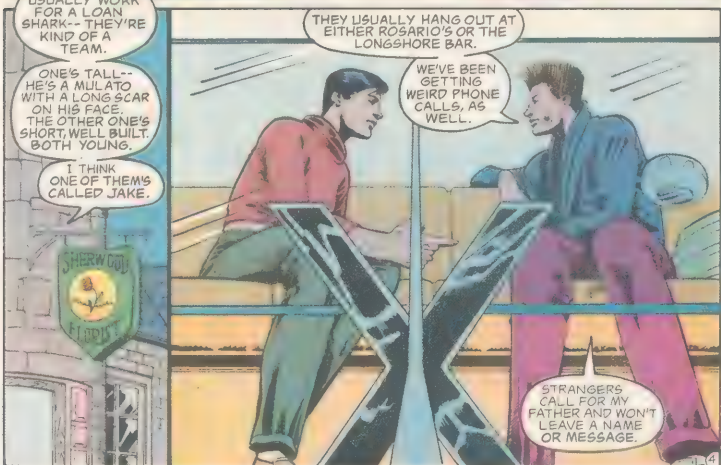
THE MEN WHO
BEAT HIM ARE WELL
KNOWN IN OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD AS
SHAKEDOWN
GRUNTS.

I'M AFRAID LUIS
BORROWED MONEY
ON THE STREETS TO
HELP MEET OUR
FAMILY'S EXPENSES.



THAT'S WHY I STARTED
DEALIN' COKE AND CRACK
TWO YEARS AGO--EASY
MONEY FOR **MEDICAL**
BILLS.

THESE MEN WHO
WORKED ON YOUR
BROTHER...WHAT
DO YOU KNOW
ABOUT THEM?



THEY
USUALLY WORK
FOR A LOAN
SHARK-- THEY'RE
KIND OF A
TEAM.

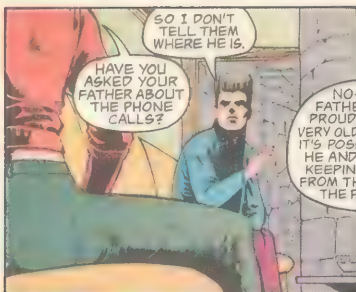
ONE'S TALL--
HE'S A MULATO
WITH A LONG SCAR
ON HIS FACE.
THE OTHER ONE'S
SHORT, WELL BUILT.
BOTH YOUNG.

I THINK
ONE OF THEM'S
CALLED JAKE.

THEY USUALLY HANG OUT AT
EITHER ROSARIO'S OR THE
LONGSHORE BAR.

WE'VE BEEN
GETTING
WEIRD PHONE
CALLS, AS
WELL.

STRANGERS
CALL FOR MY
FATHER AND WON'T
LEAVE A NAME
OR MESSAGE.



SO I DON'T
TELL THEM
WHERE HE IS.

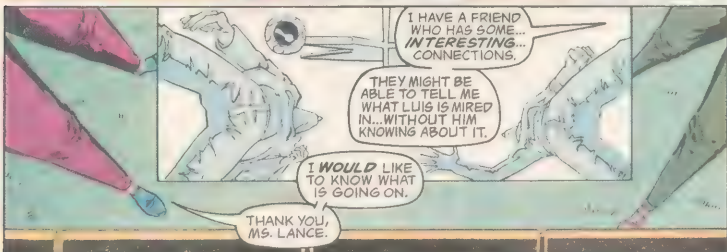
HAVE YOU
ASKED YOUR
FATHER ABOUT
THE PHONE
CALLS?

NO--MY
FATHER IS A
PROUD MAN AND
VERY OLD-FASHIONED
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT
HE AND LUIS ARE
KEEPING THINGS
FROM THE REST OF
THE FAMILY.



HONESTLY,
MS. LANCE--WE
ARE A **GOOD**
FAMILY. WE'VE
JUST HAD SOME
HARD TIMES.

AND YOU
KNOW I'M
**DRUG-
FREE.**



I HAVE A FRIEND
WHO HAS SOME...
INTERESTING...
CONNECTIONS.

THEY MIGHT BE
ABLE TO TELL ME
WHAT LUIS IS MIED
IN...WITHOUT HIM
KNOWING ABOUT IT.

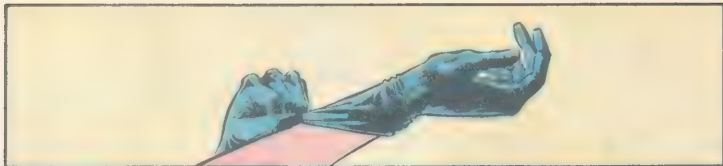
I **WOULD** LIKE
TO KNOW WHAT
IS GOING ON.

THANK YOU,
MS. LANCE.



I'LL LET
YOU KNOW
ABOUT THE JOB
PROSPECT,
TOO.





AND WHAT
HAVE YOU
FOUND?

THEY'RE
CLOSE... BUT
THEY HAVEN'T
CONNECTED.

WHAT ABOUT
THE **LESSER**
CONCERN?

IS IT
TERMINAL?

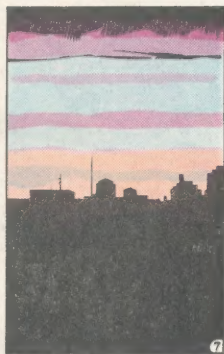
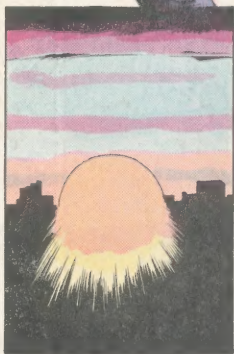
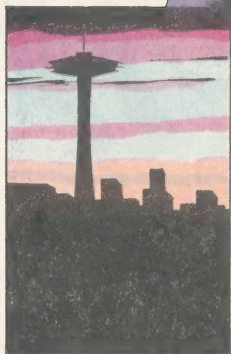
NOT
FORESEEABLY.
THERE'S BEEN
IMPROVEMENT.

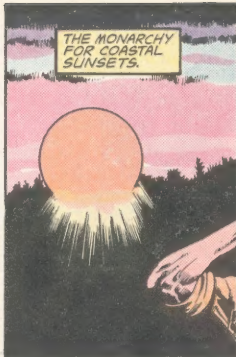
MM.

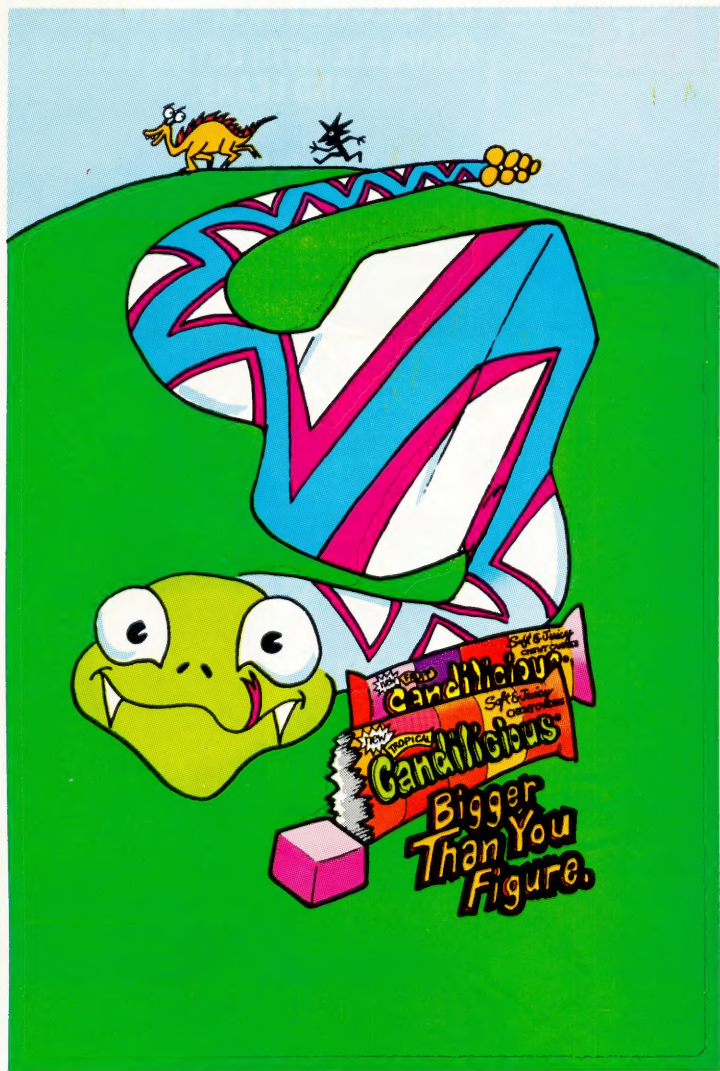
I WANT THE
POSSIBILITY
OF A MERGER
ELIMINATED.

HAVE A
CIGAR.











THE TOP SECRET/S.I.™ WORLD... COMPLETE WITH LOTUS, LASERS AND LEARS.

In the world of espionage, nothing tops TOP SECRET/S.I., the complete line of role-playing games and novels.

Role-play your way from Red Square to Times Square. Double deal arms and equipment from Lear Jets to lasers.

Or wind your way through TOP SECRET/S.I. novels. From the high-tech '80's to the high-hat '30's. If you're aching for espionage, you'll find all you can handle in the world of TOP SECRET/S.I. products. Search us out at most toy, hobby and bookstores.



The TOP SECRET/S.I.™ Espionage Role-Playing Game takes you into the world of espionage with an accuracy and realism unmatched in gaming. Placed at your disposal are: 200 maps, illustrations, documentation and detailed descriptions of state-of-the-art weaponry and vehicles. Life-like scenarios transport you from Hong Kong to Honduras, Moscow to Monte Carlo.



Use the HIGH STAKES GAMBLE campaign set with your TOP SECRET/S.I.™ Espionage Role-Playing Game. You're a member of a formula one race team by day, you become a secret agent by night. This exciting set gives you expanded rules for chases, throngs of bad guys, and action-packed spy adventure scenarios based on the Grand Prix racing scene in Monte Carlo.

DOUBLE AGENT™ Books give you two action-packed thrillers back-to-back. One is always a TOP SECRET/S.I. novel, and the other is either an AGENT 13™ or AGENTS OF FORTUNE™ adventure.

The FINAL BUG is a unique one player role-playing experience. Over 30 detailed drawings and photos illustrate this "locked room" mystery where death happens in a chamber that can't be entered, in a way that can't happen, and to a man who can't be there. Hands-on clues help you solve this crime.

